

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2790

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 5110

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CSCE, US, BU, PL, XG, RO, YU

SUBJECT: THE SOVIETS AND PEACEFUL CHANGE IN EUROPE

REF: MOSCOW 11115

1. WE CONTINUE TO BE UNABLE TO CONFIRM OR DENY THE POSSIBILITY OF A SOVIET-POLISH TERRITORIAL TRADE INVOLVING KALININGRAD OBLAST AND OIL-BEARING LANDS IN EASTERN POLAND. WE ASSUME THAT A TRANSFER INVOLVING KALININGRAD OBLAST WOULD INCLUDE KALININGRAD CITY AND DOUBT THAT THE SOVIETS WOULD GIVE UP AN AREA IN WHICH A MAJOR SOVIET FLEET INSTALLATION IS LOCATED. BUT MOSCOW CAN SPECULATE MORE AUTHORITATIVELY THEN WE.

2. ADDITIONALLY, WE ARE SKEPTICAL THAT THE SOVIETS ARE SO OIL HUNGRY THEY WOULD WISH TO OPEN UP THE SUBJECT OF TERRITORIAL CHANGES WITH THE POLES. AGAIN, MOSCOW'S COMMENTS WOULD BE MORE TO THE POINT. OPENING UP THE QUESTION OF POLAND'S EASTERN BOUNDARIES WOULD SEEM A NEEDLESSLY RISKY POLITICAL MOVE. SOME OF THE SENSITIVITIES INVOLVED HAVE BEEN INDIRECTLY DEMONSTRATED IN THE CONCERN EXPRESSED HERE BY POLISH INTELLECTUALS ABOUT
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THE CULTURAL DEPRIVATION OF THE POLISH MINORITY IN

THE USSR. IT SEEMS MOST UNLIKELY THAT THE SOVIET
REGIME WOULD BE PREPARED TO UNDERTAKE A LARGE-SCALE
"RECTIFICATION" OF BOUNDARIES THAT WOULD RECALL
MEMORIES OF THE POLISH CLAIM TO LWOW AND WILNO.
DAVIES

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NNN

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